DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 377 588 EA 026 389

AUTHOR Pearson, Judith
TITLE Myths of Educational Choice.
REPORT NO ISBN-0-275-94169-8
PUB DATE 93
NOTE 168p.
AVAILABLE FROM Praeger Publishers, Greenwood Publishing Group, 88 Post Road West, Westport, CT 06881 ($37.95).
PUB TYPE Books (010) -- Viewpoints (Opinion/Position Papers, Essays, etc.) (120)

EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS *Access to Education; Competition; *Educational Economics; Educational Equity (Finance); Educationally Disadvantaged; Elementary Secondary Education; *Equal Education; Free Choice Transfer Programs; Free Enterprise System; *Open Enrollment; *School Choice

ABSTRACT

This book presents concerns and raises questions about the choice programs being proposed and implemented around the United States. It argues that poorly conceived, hastily enacted choice programs may do more harm than good. The demand for educational choice may result in lost opportunities for students (some groups more than others), weakened rural communities, and erosion of the structure of democratic society. Chapter 1 examines the relationship between the growing popularity of choice and a general percertion of crisis in the public schools. Chapters 2 and 3 critically assess problems with open-enrollment programs implemented in Minnesota, particularly the Post-Secondary Enrollment Options program. Chapters 4-8 explore the economics of educational choice, specifically, the issues of deregulation, supply- and demand-side economics, and revenue. The ninth chapter examines possible outcomes of hastily implemented choice, such as the further deterioration of disadvantaged schools, increased school segregation, and school closings. Effects of choice on professionals, including a decline in teacher morale and reduced job security, are described in chapter 10. The final chapter examines issues of choice and constitutional rights. (Contains 102 references.) (LMI)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****

THIS
DOCUMENT
NOT
AVAILABLE
FROM

EDRS